



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 07, 2003
VOL. 50 NO. 16

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week's trading was mostly trending unchanged. Trade sentiment was overall no better than steady. Retail demand was unaggressive, usually ranging slow to fair good, best where limited features were present. Food service was fair to fairly good, especially into fast food for promotional activities. Buying interest usually centered around regular commitments. Pplies of all sizes were at least adequate to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was fair to moderate with some improvements where weekend needs increased. Breast items and wings were adequate to ample and slow to clear although discounts were present. Dark meat was available with leg quarters often better balanced where export needs were active. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights in a full range.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 02/10/03-02/15/03 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	53.00-56.00	52.00-61.00	55.09	24
Los Angeles	68.00			
New York	53.00-56.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	60.00-63.00	52.00-65.00	62.65	83

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 62.75 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
905	55.60-65.00	62.52
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	171.50	1,338
BREASTS - B/S	152.50	4,878
BREASTS - WHOLE	83.50	1,158
THIGH MEAT - B/S	59.00	846
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	8,446
WINGS	72.50	3,387

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS The preliminary majority prices for next week's trading into the Chicago area were unchanged from Monday's final. Whole fryer market tone was about steady. Producer offerings of whole birds and Wogs were available for the light buyer interest. Retail and food service demand was mixed, slow to fairly good; retail best into the Chicago and Ohio markets with fast food and casual dining outlets doing well into all areas. Most dealers report floor stocks in close balance. Weights were in a desirable range. Trading on parts was for immediate needs only with buyers cautious and generally disinterested. Supplies of all items were available, although leg quarters were close, occasional discounting on wings and breast items to help stimulate interest. The market tone on wings and breast items was barely steady to weak, and steady on dark meat.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was light to fair, at times better where ads and first of the month business was strong. Food service was fair to fairly good with fast food best. Supplies were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items and wings were in the longest positions with some attractive prices reported to help move additional product. Dark meat showed improvements with leg quarters aided by export interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The preliminary majority prices unchanged from last week's levels. Trading reported for next week's deliveries were at generally unchanged prices and centered on regular commitments. Offerings overall were adequate. Retailer demand was moderate to good best for whole body, whole cut-up and parts where featured. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. Trade sentiment was generally steady on parts. Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated): Southern California – whole body 59-119, whole cut-up 79-139, seasoned whole body 97, marinated Cornish hen 199, boneless breast 177-399, boneless breast 3# IQF 537 and 4# IQF 999, breast steak 349, boneless leg meat 59-99 and marinated 198, split breast 97-118, marinated leg quarter 89, leg quarter 10# bag 290-490 and 40# case 799-1299, thigh 79-159, drumstick 49-159 and 5# bag 195, fried 8 piece mixed 399 and 10 piece drumstick and thigh 399; Northern California – whole body 59-99, whole cut-up 139, breast steak 499, split breast 88, whole leg 99; Colorado – whole body 79, roaster 99, boneless breast 169-279, boneless breast tenders 349, boneless breast marinated 399, boneless breast 3-4# IQF 899, drumstick 99-129, thigh 99-129; Arizona – whole body 47-119, boneless breast 179-459, boneless breast 3-4# IQF 899-999, breast tenders 349-459, split breast 88-249, drumstick 99-153, thigh 99-153.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to no better than moderate entering the weekend as dealers continued with a cautious and selective posture. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate to available for current needs. Retail and distributive draw was lackluster. The market tone was no better than steady. In the parts complex, boneless-skinless breasts were ample. Bone-in breasts were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts were adequate to fully adequate. Wings were readily available.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased slightly entering the weekend with today's activity primarily consisting of standing commitments. Seller offerings were fully adequate to ample for current inquiry. Live supplies were moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 66 cents. Trade sentiment was no better than steady. In the parts complex, all items remained fully sufficient for needs. Breast cuts and wings were generally noted as ample and slow to clear. Leg quarters ranged from adequate to ample.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	47-69
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	58.01
NO. OF BOXES	8,673
CUMULATIVE	02/03/03-02/07/03 58.04
	02/04/02-02/08/02 54.28
NO. OF BOXES	02/03/03-02/07/03 39,657
	02/04/02-02/08/02 51,191

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

FEB 06

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEB 07

POUNDS					POUNDS					WEEKLY	
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG	
BREAST - B/S	910	125.00-236.00	130-138	139.58	890	125.00-236.00	130-138	139.54	4,565	137.77	
TENDERLOINS	101	118.00-172.00	120-125	135.64	86	118.00-172.00	120-125	138.72	629	134.63	
BREAST - LINE RUN	79	82.00-87.00	84-86	86.08	79	84.00-87.00	84-86	86.10	473	85.99	
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				273	74.73	
LEGS	89	18.00-33.00	-	22.94	89	19.00-33.00	-	22.96	470	22.69	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	612	15.50-18.50	16-17	16.69	612	16.50-19.00	17-18	17.67	3,120	16.94	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,156	18.50-25.50	19-20	20.05	1,076	19.00-25.50	20-21	20.67	5,330	20.05	
WINGS (WHOLE)	282	67.00-74.00	68-70	73.05	282	65.00-74.00	67-69	72.80	1,050	72.91	
WINGS (CUT)	479	84.00-90.00	84-85	85.93	517	81.50-87.00	83-84	84.31	2,411	85.95	
DRUMSTICKS	68	33.00-46.00	-	34.53	68	33.00-46.00	-	34.53	341	33.59	
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				141	36.01	
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				140	57.43	
*****					*****						
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS						
TRADING FOR FEB 06, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.					TRADING FOR FEB 07, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.						
	RANGE		AVERAGE			RANGE		AVERAGE		5-DAY AVERAGE	
	43.50 - 46.75		45.26			44.25 - 47.00		45.84		45.96	
The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.											

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity increased slightly entering the weekend, although, demand was only moderate at best as dealers remained cautious and selective. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts were ample and sharply discounted. Bone-in breasts were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts were fully adequate. Wings were readily available. Retail and distributive draw was lackluster. The market tone was weak on boneless-skinless breasts and wings, and about steady on the balance. ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	FEB 07 WEEKLY
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		
BREAST - B/S	145-150	144.68	435,620		140-145	143.20	390,840	145.59	2,308,210
TENDERLOINS	110-115	107.58	142,640		110-115	118.01	111,080	115.39	514,030
BREAST - WITH RIBS	83-84	90.35	139,600		83-84	90.51	163,160	89.02	837,080
BREAST - LINE RUN	83	86.92	133,040		83	88.37	90,280	86.12	573,560
LEGS	31-32	30.20	242,640		31-32	27.82	284,960	29.01	1,025,640
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	21.24	398,562		20-21	21.08	501,350	21.51	2,281,736
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	28.14	115,940		23-24	27.83	139,460	27.35	666,140
THIGHS	21-22	27.23	50,400		21-22	31.93	64,930	31.23	276,277
B/S THIGHS	62-63	65.81	95,320		62-63	65.80	27,720	63.62	379,190
WINGS (WHOLE)	69-70	73.05	229,380		68-69	73.39	145,268	72.21	859,888
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.29	24,360		10-12	12.29	40,878	12.16	165,438
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	28.53	11,680		30-35	30.77	12,640	30.66	64,030
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55	50.17	13,200		45-50	47.06	23,120	48.46	108,480

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	02/07	02/06	02/05	02/04	02/05	02/04	01/31	01/29		
ALA	3,836	3,958	3,396	3,909	5.16	5.07	3,626	5.01		
ARK	4,528	5,166	4,619	4,858	4.84	4.91	4,239	4.93		
DELMARVA	2,204	2,287	2,325	2,357	5.07	5.09	2,412	5.13		
KY-LA-TN	1,954	1,830	1,562	1,848	5.16	4.84	1,763	5.05		
MISS	2,423	2,894	2,531	2,777	5.61	5.41	2,417	5.37		
NC	2,043	2,594	2,379	2,659	5.96	6.00	2,275	6.12		
TEXAS	2,446	2,443	2,331	2,345	4.92	4.91	2,383	4.91		
TOTAL	19,434	21,172	19,143	20,681	5.20	5.16	19,115	5.18		

MON-FRI 102,502(A)

100,542(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 07-Feb 03 and 8-Feb-03 is estimated to be 29,075,000 up 1.36 percent from a week ago and down 8.5 percent from a year ago. (Last week 28,684,000; last year 31,763 ,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 08-Feb-03 is estimated to be 147,932,000 head down 2 percent from a week ago, and down 5 percent from a year ago (Last week 151,181,000 Last year 155,316,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	90-92
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	66
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	102-103
	ICE PACK	95-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-105
	DRY PACK	113
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	
	ICE PACK	91-98
DUCKS		152-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 25-Jan-03 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----

Head	21,565	21,968	46,844
Avg Weight	3.87	4.74	6.24
% of total /1	24%	24%	52%

COMPARISONS

Last week	24,410	21,325	42,892
Avg Weight	3.66	4.76	6.17
% of total /1	28%	24%	48%

Same week, yr ago /2	27,554	24,621	43,118
Avg Weight	3.76	4.77	6.11
% of total /1	29%	26%	45%

To date/2003	77,226	76,347	153,576
To date/2002	115,780	87,854	177,157

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 01-Feb-2003 (PRELIMINARY)

YOUNG CHICKENS LIGHT HENS HEAVY HENS TOTAL HENS DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----

HEAD	151,181	1,579	1,443	3,022	440
AVG WT	5.21	3.58	7.38	5.39	7.02
LAST WEEK	144,124	1,746	1,292	3,038	398
SAME WK YR AGO	153,992	2,032	1,325	3,357	411
AVG WT	5.22	3.51	7.82	5.21	7.27
TO-DATE/2003	727,789	8,081	6,780	14,861	2,057
TO-DATE/2002	746,636	9,107	6,404	15,511	2,209

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 154.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153 million head or 1.2 million head less than or 99% of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: FEB 04, 2003
PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.40 - 1.50	Silkie	4.00 - 6.00ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.40 - 1.50	Geese	
Pekin Ducks	4.00 - 5.00ea.	9-14 LBS	.50 - .55
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.25 - .45	Pigeons	2.25 - 2.75ea.
Red Fowl 5-9 LBS	.70 - 1.00	White Pigeons	4.00 - 5.00ea.
Crossbred Fowl		Rabbits	
5-9 LBS	1.10	4-6 LBS	1.30 - 1.70
Crossbred Roosters		Rabbits	
4-6 LBS	.75 - .80	6-9 LBS	1.20 - 1.40
Crossbred Roosters		Bunnies	3.75 - 8.00ea.
7-11 LBS	.40 - .60	Guinea Pigs	4.00 - 17.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.30 - 1.37	Goats	35.00 - 55.00ea.
Banty Roosters	4.00 - 5.00ea.	Kid Goats	16.00 - 24.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.25 - 3.00ea.	Doves	4.00 - 6.00ea.
Leghorn Roosters	.35	Chukars	2.25 - 3.25ea.
		Total Coops Sold	453

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 03-FEB-2003

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	140	146
MIDWEST MOSTLY	122-126	123-127

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	59-66	63-65
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	63-85	68-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment remained mostly steady. Demand was moderate to instances fairly good. Weights were desirable. Schedules full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$.35-.50, livers at \$.75-1.70, and feet at \$.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 03-FEB-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS MOSTLY	116-124	125

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
DECEMBER 28	109.3	140.8	78%	5.10
JANUARY 4	128.3	142.4	90%	5.15
11	154.4	149.1	104%	5.11
18	155.0	152.4	102%	5.14
25	145.9	152.9	95%	5.17
FEBRUARY 1	153.0	154.2	99%	5.21
YEAR TO DATE	736.6	751.0	98%	
FEBRUARY 8		153.8		
15		153.6		

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

W/E	02/08/03	02/01/03	% CHG	02/09/01	% CHG
Broilers	147,932	151,181*	-02	155,316*	-05
Cattle	655	662	-01	634*	+03
Hogs	1,888	1,908	-01	1,840*	+03

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

EASTERN LIGHT LIVE HEN Values were unchanged. Offerings of spent fowl were at least adequate to fully adequate. Processing schedules for next week were reported as less than normal. Movement of finished product was mostly moderate.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority values were unchanged to higher. Demand was mostly moderate with offerings ample. Many producers were forced to send unexpected bookings and overruns into higher priced rendering channels. Many producers expect removal costs to increase slightly in the upcoming months.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values were too few to report. Offerings were fully adequate from production areas. Finished sales were moderate. Slaughter schedules were irregular but usually reduced. Salvage costs were viewed as about steady.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were unchanged on light canners; lower on heavy canners due to very thin trading levels. Demand was in a full range. Offerings were in close balance to tight and well cleared. The undertone was at least steady on heavies; generally steady on lights.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITH OUT FREIGHT COST	
<u>LIGHT CANNER HENS</u>	<u>HEAVY CANNER HENS</u>
<u>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</u>	<u>(WITHOUT NECKS)</u>
20-25 MAJORITY 22-22.5	30-31 MAJORITY

CENTS/POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
<u>LIGHT CANNER HENS</u>	<u>HEAVY CANNER HENS</u>
<u>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</u>	<u>(WITHOUT NECKS)</u>
22-26.5 MAJORITY 24-24.5	31.5-33 MAJORITY

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked full schedules. Offerings ample.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was fair to moderate for the mostly adequate offerings. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. The undertone was generally steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Price levels were too few to report. Demand was selective for sufficient offerings. Schedules were generally noted as about normal to normal. Trade sentiment was mixed but usually reported as no change.

LIVE TYPE HENS

CENTS PER LB., DAY OF NEGOTIATION, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0-7 (1)	3-5
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	2.5-6 (1)	4-4.5

(1) Removal Cost

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE FOLLOWING WEEK

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	

(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading
(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Vacant
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	